

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A method for generating a simulated network, the method comprising:

monitoring an actual managed network to determine a device personality;

accessing a network discovery database for a managed network, wherein the network discovery database comprises comprising stored device personalities and associated device attributes information and connectivity information for a plurality of device configurations devices of the managed network;

comparing the device personality with the stored device personalities;

selecting one of the stored device configurations having a stored device personality that is the same as the device personality to determine the associated device attributes;

attaching the associated device attributes to the device personality to create a new device configuration; and

automatically generating a an updated build file for use by a network management simulator describing the simulated network based on the stored device configurations and the new device configuration network discovery database.

2. (Currently amended) The method as recited in Claim 1 further comprising ~~wherein the automatically generating the build file comprises:~~

~~extracting device attributes for devices of the managed network from the network discovery database;~~

~~determining personalities for the devices based on the device attributes; and~~

~~writing the stored device configurations and the new device configuration to the build file, including the device personalities and the associated device attributes and the personalities to the build file.~~

3. (Currently amended) The method as recited in Claim-2 1 wherein the stored device personality comprises ~~attributes comprise:~~ a device type, ~~network connectivity information, a device configuration and a device operating system name and version.~~

4. (Currently amended) The method as recited in Claim 3 further comprising:
selecting one of the stored device configurations having a stored device personality
that is a closest match to the device personality;
automatically creating a new device personality; and
attaching the new device personality to the device attributes to create a new device
configuration ~~wherein the determining personalities for the devices based on the device~~
~~attributes comprises determining whether a personality exists for a device based on the device~~
~~type and the device operating system of the device;~~
~~if the personality exists, selecting the personality; and~~
~~if the personality does not exist, creating a personality for the device.~~

5. (Currently amended) The method as recited in Claim-4 3 wherein the device
personality is compared with the stored device personality ~~the creating the personality for the~~
~~device comprises selecting a personality from existing personalities based on the device type~~
~~and the device operating system name and version.~~

6. (Currently amended) The method as recited in Claim 4 ~~wherein the determining~~
~~personalities for the devices based on the device attributes further comprises attaching the~~
~~device attributes for the device to the personality~~ 3 wherein the device personality further
includes device interface information comprising a number and type of ports.

7. (Currently amended Currently amended) The method as recited in Claim-3 6
wherein the network connectivity information comprises device interface information is
determined according to a neighbor discovery protocol table for the device.

8. (Currently amended) The method as recited in Claim 4 wherein one of the stored
device configurations is selected according to a comparison of a closest device model number
1 ~~wherein the build file is for use by a network management simulator to simulate a network.~~

9. (Currently amended) The method as recited in Claim-3 1 wherein the device attributes ~~further~~ comprise line speeds and event information.

10. (Currently amended) The method as recited in Claim 9 wherein ~~the automatically generating the build file further comprises configuring the event information for the devices~~ comprises an operational history including traps, system logs and fault logs.

11. (Currently amended) ~~A computer-usable medium having Software encoded in one or more computer-readable media and when executed operable to program code embodied therein for causing a computer system to perform a method of for generating a simulated network based on a managed network, the method comprising:~~

monitor an actual managed network to determine a device personality;

~~accessing~~ access a network discovery database for a ~~managed network, wherein the network discovery database comprises~~ comprising stored device personalities and associated device attributes information and connectivity information for a plurality of device configurations ~~devices of the managed network;~~

compare the device personality with the stored device personalities;

select one of the stored device configurations having a stored device personality that is the same as the device personality to determine the associated device attributes;

attach the associated device attributes to the device personality to create a new device configuration; and

automatically generating a generate an updated build file for use by a network management simulator describing the simulated network based on the stored device configurations and the new device configuration ~~network discovery database.~~

12. (Currently amended) The computer-readable ~~usable~~ medium as recited in Claim 11 further operable to ~~wherein the automatically generating the build file comprises:~~

~~extracting device attributes for devices of the managed network from the network discovery database;~~

~~determining personalities for the devices based on the device attributes; and~~

~~writing the~~ write the stored device configurations and the new device configuration to the build file, including the device personalities and the associated device attributes and the personalities to the build file.

13. (Currently amended) The computer- readable ~~usable~~ medium as recited in Claim ~~12~~ 11 wherein the device personality comprises ~~attributes comprise~~: a device type, network ~~connectivity information, a device configuration and a device operating system name and~~ version.

14. (Currently amended) The computer- readable ~~usable~~ medium as recited in Claim 11 further operable to:

select one of the stored device configurations having a stored device personality that is a closest match to the device personality;

create a new device personality; and

attach the new device personality to the device attributes to create a new device configuration ~~13 wherein the determining personalities for the devices based on the device attributes comprises:~~

~~determining whether a personality exists for a device based on the device type and the device operating system of the device;~~

~~if the personality exists, selecting the personality; and~~

~~if the personality does not exist, creating a personality for the device.~~

15. (Currently amended) The computer- readable ~~usable~~ medium as recited in Claim ~~14~~ 13 wherein the device personality is compared with the stored device personality ~~the creating the personality for the device comprises selecting a personality from existing personalities based on the device type and the device operating system name and version.~~

16. (Currently amended) The computer- ~~readable~~ usable medium as recited in Claim 14 wherein the ~~determining personalities for the devices based on the device attributes further comprises attaching the device attributes for the device to the personality~~ 13 wherein the device personality further includes device interface information comprising a number and type of ports.

17. (Currently amended) The computer- ~~readable~~ usable medium as recited in Claim ~~13~~ 16 wherein the ~~network connectivity information comprises~~ device interface information is determined according to a neighbor discovery protocol table for the device.

18. (Currently amended) The computer- ~~readable~~ usable medium as recited in Claim 14 wherein one of the stored device configurations is selected according to a comparison of a closest device model number ~~11 wherein the build file is for use by a network management simulator to simulate a network.~~

19. (Currently amended) The computer- ~~readable~~ usable medium as recited in Claim ~~3~~ 11 wherein the device attributes ~~further~~ comprise line speeds and event information.

20. (Currently amended) The computer- ~~readable~~ usable medium as recited in Claim ~~9~~ 19 wherein the ~~automatically generating the build file further comprises configuring the event information for the devices~~ comprises an operational history including traps, system logs and fault logs.

21. (Currently amended) A system for generating a simulated network, the system comprising:

means for monitoring an actual managed network to determine a device personality;

means for accessing a network discovery database for a managed network, wherein the network discovery database comprises comprising stored device personalities and associated device attributes information and connectivity information for a plurality of device configurations devices of the managed network;

means for comparing the device personality with the stored device personalities;

means for selecting one of the stored device configurations having a stored device personality that is the same as the device personality to determine the associated device attributes;

means for attaching the associated device attributes to the device personality to create a new device configuration; and

means for automatically generating an updated a-build file for use by a network management simulator describing the simulated network based on the stored device configurations and the new device configuration network discovery database.

22. (Currently amended) The system as recited in Claim 21 further comprising ~~wherein the means for automatically generating the build file comprises:~~

~~means for extracting device attributes for devices of the managed network from the network discovery database;~~

~~means for determining personalities for the devices based on the device attributes; and~~

means for writing the stored device configurations and the new device configuration to the build file, including the device personalities and the associated device attributes and the personalities to the build file.

23. (Currently amended) The system as recited in Claim ~~22~~ 21 wherein the device personality means attributes comprises: a device type, ~~network connectivity information, a device configuration~~ and a device operating system.

24. (Currently amended) The system as recited in Claim 21 further comprising:

means for selecting one of the stored device configurations having a stored device personality that is a closest match to the device personality;

means for creating a new device personality; and

means for attaching the new device personality to the device attributes to create a new device configuration ~~23 wherein the means for determining personalities for the devices~~

~~based on the device attributes comprises:~~

~~means for determining whether a personality exists for a device based on the device type and the device operating system of the device;~~

~~means for selecting the personality if the personality exists; and~~

~~means for creating a personality for the device if the personality does not exist.~~

25. (Currently amended) The system as recited in Claim ~~24~~ 23 wherein the device personality is compared with the stored device personality ~~the means for creating the personality for the device comprises means for selecting a personality from existing personalities based on the device type and the device operating system.~~

26. (Currently amended) The system as recited in Claim ~~24~~ wherein ~~the means for determining personalities for the devices based on the device attributes further comprises means for attaching the device attributes for the device to the personality~~ 23 wherein the device personality further includes device interface information comprising a number and type of ports.

27. (Currently amended) The system as recited in Claim ~~23~~ 26 wherein ~~the network connectivity information comprises device interface information~~ is determined according to a neighbor discovery protocol table for the device.

28. (Currently amended) The system as recited in Claim ~~24~~ wherein ~~one of the stored device configurations is selected according to a comparison of a closest device model number~~ 21 wherein the build file is for use by a network management simulator to simulate a network.

29. (Currently amended) The system as recited in Claim ~~23~~ 21 wherein the device attributes ~~further comprise~~ line speeds and event information.

30. (Currently amended) The system as recited in Claim 29 wherein ~~the means for automatically generating the build file further comprises means for configuring the event information for the devices~~ comprises an operational history including traps, system logs and fault logs.